

REMARKS

**INTRODUCTION**

The specification has been amended in accordance with the requirements of MPEP 608.02 should the Petition under 37 CFR 1.84 be granted.

No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-22 are pending and under consideration.

**CONCLUSION:**

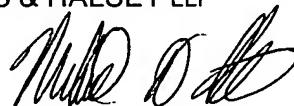
If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any additional fees associated with the filing of this Petition and/or Preliminary Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 2/12/04

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